



# The Gazette of Meghalaya

## EXTRAORDINARY

### PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 66

Shillong, Wednesday, April 2, 2025

12<sup>th</sup> Chaitra, 1947 (S. E.)

## PART-I

### GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

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#### NOTIFICATION

The 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.

**No.SW(S) WAKF. 154/2015/667.** - In continuation of this Department's Notification No.SW(S) WAKF. 154/2015/505, dated 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2022, and in exercise of the powers under section 4 (1) of the Wakf Act, 1995, the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to extend the appointment of the Director of Land Records & Survey, Meghalaya, Shillong as the Survey Commissioner of Wakf for the State of Meghalaya with effect from the date of expiry of the term for another period of one year. A report shall be submitted by the Survey Commissioner of Wakf to the State Government containing the particulars as listed under sub-section (3) of Section 4 of the Wakf Act, 1995 (as amended) within a period of one year accordingly.

**PRAVIN BAKSHI,**

Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,  
Social Welfare Department.

The 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.

**No.SW(S) WAKF. 154/2015/668.** - In continuation of this Department's Notification No.SW(S) WAKF.154/2015/506, dated 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2022, and in exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section (1) *read* with Sub-section (2) of the Section 4 of the Wakf Act, 1995, the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to extend the appointment of the Additional Director of Land Records & Survey, Meghalaya, Shillong as the Additional Survey Commissioner of Wakf for the State of Meghalaya with effect from the date of expiry of the term for another period of one year. He is required to perform function(s) under this Act under the general supervisor and control of the Survey Commissioner of Wakfs.

**PRAVIN BAKSHI,**

Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,  
Social Welfare Department.

The 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.

**No.SW(S) WAKF.154/2015/669.** - In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) *read* with sub-section (2) of section 4 of the Wakf Act, 1995 (as amended), the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to appoint the Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue)/Extra Assistant Commissioner (Revenue) as the Additional Survey Commissioner of Wakfs for the respective District Administration in the State of Meghalaya with effect from the date of expiry of the term for another period of 1 (one) year. The appointed officers are required to perform function(s) specified in the Act under the general supervision and control of the Meghalaya Survey Commissioner of Wakfs.

**PRAVIN BAKSHI,**  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,  
Social Welfare Department.



# The Gazette of Meghalaya EXTRAORDINARY

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No. 67

Shillong, Wednesday, April 2, 2025

12<sup>th</sup> Chaitra, 1947 (S. E.)

## PART-IIA

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
DISTRICT COUNCIL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

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### NOTIFICATION

The 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2025.

No.DCA.51/2014/102.

No.DC/L/VII/\_\_\_\_\_:- In pursuance of paragraph 11 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India, the following Act of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council is hereby published for general information:-

**THE KHASI HILLS AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT (NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF  
THE LYNGDOH, MYNTRI, BAKHRAW AND RANGBAH SHNONG AND  
ADMINISTRATION OF MAWPHLANG LYNGDOHSHIP) ACT, 2023.**

*(Passed by the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2023)*

*(Received the assent of the Governor on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025)*

*(Published in the Meghalaya Gazette on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2025)*

**AN**

**ACT**

to codify, provide and to make provisions for the Nomination, Election of the Lyngdoh, Myntri, Bakhraw and Rangbah Shnong and administration of Mawphlang Lyngdohship.

**Preamble:-** Whereas under clause (f), (g) and (j) of sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 3 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India, the District Council of an Autonomous District is empowered to make laws with respect to any matter related to appointment or succession of Chiefs or Headmen, and administration and social custom.

And whereas it is expedient to make such provisions for the administration, nomination and election of the Lyngdoh, Myntri, Bakhraw and Rangbah Shnong of Mawphlang Lyngdohship.

Now, therefore, the District Council of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District, in exercise of power conferred on it as aforesaid and to all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby enacted in the Seventy Fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. **Short title, Extent and Commencement:-** (1) This Act may be called the Khasi Hills Autonomous District (Nomination and Election of the Lyngdoh, Myntri, Bakhraw and Rangbah Shnong and Administration of Mawphlang Lyngdohship) Act, 2023.

(2) It shall extend to the whole of Mawphlang Lyngdohship.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Definitions:-** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the meaning hereby respectively assigned to them as follows:-

(1) **"Acting Chief"** means the Myntri of Blah clan or any Myntri appointed by the Executive Committee.

(2) **"Acting Rangbah Shnong"** means a person appointed by the Lyngdoh and his Executive Dorbar to temporarily look after a village until a new Rangbah Shnong is elected.

(3) **"Adult"** means a person who is not less than eighteen years of age.

(4) **"Bakhraw"** means and include the two nominees as may be selected by the Lyngdoh and Myntris from their respective clans who are permanent residents of the Hima and whose term is for three years.

**Note:** The representative of the Blah clan, Kharshiing clan, Sohliya clan, Kharhunai clan are the Myntris of the Hima Mawphlang.

(5) **"Customary Tolls"** means the tolls levied and collected by the Lyngdoh and his Dorbar on all merchandise, in accordance with the established customs and usages prevailing in the Lyngdohship since time immemorial.

Provided that, no such customary tolls shall be collected from National Highways and State Highways.

(6) **"District Council"** means the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council constituted under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

(7) **"Dorbar Hima"** means the General Dorbar of Hima Mawphlang to be convened, wherever necessary on the advice of the Executive Dorbar, by the Lyngdoh as the Chairman at least once in every year with prior intimation to the Executive Committee.

(8) **"Dorbar Kur Pyllun"** means the customary general Dorbar of the Lyngdoh Mawphlang clan of Mawphlang Lyngdohship comprising of both adult males and females belonging to the Khasi community who has the customary right to nominate the Lyngdoh.

(9) **"Electors"** means and includes the Myntri, Bakhraw, Rangbah Shnong and the indigenous Khasi adults who are the permanent resident of the Hima who are eligible to elect the Lyngdoh of Hima Mawphlang as per customary practices and whose names have been duly recognized by the Executive Dorbar of Hima Mawphlang and approved by the Executive Committee.

(10) **"Election Committee"** means a committee constituted by the Executive Dorbar for the purpose of preparing the Voters' List of the Hima.

(11) **"Executive Committee"** means the Executive Committee of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council.

(12) **"Executive Dorbar"** means the Committee consisting of the Lyngdoh, Myntri, Bakhraw and some Riew Rangbah or Elders or representative of the Hima to run its day-to-day administration, as may

be appointed by the Executive Dorbar and approved by the Executive Committee. Such meeting shall be presided over by the Lyngdoh and in his absence by the Myntri Blah or by any member elected by the members present in the meeting in case both are absent.

- (13) **"Gazette"** means the Gazette of Meghalaya.
- (14) **"Hima"** or **"Elaka"** means the areas under the administrative jurisdiction of Mawphlang Lyngdohship.
- (15) **"Lyngdoh"** means the traditional Chief and the customary administrative Head of Hima Mawphlang who belongs to the Lyngdoh Mawphlang clan who are the descendants from the womb of ka Bang and ka Sohminhir and is duly appointed as per the prevailing customs and under the provisions of this Act.
- (16) **"Lynti Shnong"** means Lynti Sorkari and includes a route, a footpath, a way, a passage, or any other form of linkage being used by the public for connection of:
  - i) a village to another village/town/city,
  - ii) a village to a market/commercial centre,
  - iii) a village to a permanent farm or agricultural and allied area,
  - iv) a village to any other place/area which is more or less permanent in nature.
- (17) **"Mawbri"** means a boundary stone erected by the land-owner of any Ri-Kynti land or Bri-Kur or Ri-Raid land with the knowledge of the bordering land owner or landholder.
- (18) **"Mawpud"** means a boundary pillar erected between the Elaka and other Elaka and includes a boundary pillar erected between a Raid or any village falling under the jurisdiction of the Elaka.
- (19) **"Musur"** means a type of customary toll levied on all merchandise that enter into the market within the jurisdiction of the Lyngdohship.
- (20) **"Myntri"** means a permanent resident of Mawphlang Lyngdohship who is the authorized adult male representative of the Blah clan (descendants from the womb of Ka Langksir and Ka Riting), Kharshiing clan, Sohliya clan and Kharhunai clan of Hima Mawphlang duly elected or nominated by the respective clan as per the prevailing customs and under the provisions of this Act who shall carry out general administrative functions under the prevailing customs of Hima Mawphlang.
- (21) **"Returning Officer"** means any officer as may be appointed by the Executive Committee.
- (22) **"Rangbah Shnong"** means a traditional elected head of a village which falls under the administrative control and territorial jurisdiction of Hima Mawphlang and includes a Rangbah Shnong or Headman or Sordar Shnong of a village duly elected or nominated by the adult male of the respective villages and as per the prevailing custom and under the provision of this Act.
- (23) **"Riew Rangbah"** means an elder of the Hima nominated as such by the Dorbar Hima to be the member of the Executive Dorbar whose term shall be for three years.
- (24) **"Sanad"** means the appointment letter or order issued by the Executive Committee to the Lyngdoh and also includes the appointment letter or order issued by the Executive Dorbar to the Myntri, Bakhraw and Rangbah Shnong.
- (25) **"Election Tribunal"** means an official of the District Council Court not below the rank of a Magistrate 1<sup>st</sup> Class constituted by the Executive Committee for disposal of election dispute.
- (26) **"U Synniang U Bynhei"** means a voluntary contribution by the residents of the village for the purpose of ka Synshar - Khadar as per Khasi customary practice.

- (27) **"Village or Shnong"** means an area of human habitation having definite contiguous boundary where a number of house-holds are grouped together under one administrative set up, duly recognized as such by the Executive Dorbar and approved by the Executive Committee.

**3. Election Committee of the Lyngdohship:-**

- (1) There shall be an Election Committee of the Lyngdohship duly approved by the Executive Committee consisting of not more than eight (8) members to be selected by the Executive Dorbar for this purpose.
- (2) The duties of the Committee shall be preparation of the voter's list and any other matter that may be referred to it by the Executive Dorbar or Executive Committee, for the purpose of election of the Lyngdoh of Mawphlang Lyngdohship.
- (3) The Committee shall have a Chairman and a Secretary to be selected from amongst its members.
- (4) The office of a member of the Committee shall be honorary and shall terminate with the finalization of the Voter's list.

**4.(1) Persons to conduct the Election** - The Executive Committee may appoint, or authorize any of its officers to be a Returning Officer for the purpose of conducting the Election. The Executive Committee shall also appoint Presiding Officers, Polling Officers and such other Officers required for assisting the Executive Committee or the Returning Officer in the presiding at the election and shall prepare ballot papers, symbols, Ballot boxes and all other necessary forms connected with the Election and take all necessary steps for smooth conduct of election.

**(2) Voting by secret ballot** - The voting shall be by secret ballot on a system to be decided by the Executive Committee.

**(3) Preparation of voters' list** - The procedure for preparing the voters' lists shall be as follows:

- (i) The Election Committee of the Lyngdohship shall prepare a list of all the persons eligible to vote in the ensuing election of the Lyngdoh.
- (ii) The voters' lists shall be prepared village-wise or block-wise as the Lyngdohship is usually divided and a serial number to a voter shall be given accordingly. The voters' list shall be in a form in Appendix I.
- (iii) The Chairman and the Secretary of the Election Committee shall put their signatures with date at the end of the list of each village and shall submit the lists so prepared to the Executive Committee which shall scrutinise, correct or have the same corrected, if necessary. After the list has been so scrutinised and corrected, where necessary it shall then be printed or type and copies thereof sent to the Election Committee of the Lyngdohship for wide publicity in the villages within the Lyngdohship. The Election Committee shall be required to submit a report to the Executive Committee of this having been done. A copy of the list shall also be displayed in the Notice Board of the District Council.
- (iv) Any person whose name does not appear in the voters' list thus published, or any person having any objection to make with respect to the eligibility or otherwise of any voter whose name appears in the voters' list thus published shall within thirty days from the date of publication in the District Council Office, put in a petition for the inclusion of his name or file his objection petition against the eligibility or otherwise of any voters before the Returning Officer accompanied with a fee as prescribed by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- (v) On receipt of such petition or objection petition the Returning Officer shall notify the date, time and place when and where such petition or objection shall be heard and his decision in the matter shall be final.

- (vi) The Executive Committee shall then published the final voters' list thus amended by displaying a copy of it in the Notice Board and in the head quarter of the Lyngdohship and the same shall be used for the purpose of the election.
- (vii) Only the voters' lists published as final under section 4(3)(vi) above and containing the seal of the District Council shall be officially recognized.

**(4) Deposit on Nomination and form of Nomination paper:-**

- (i) The candidates shall submit their names in writing to the Returning Officer in the form prescribed at Appendix II together with a fee as prescribed by the Executive Committee from time to time which shall not in any case be refundable.
- (ii) Candidates shall submit their nomination papers and declarations duly and legibly signed by all concerned in the form prescribed at Appendix-III within such date and time as may be fixed by the Returning Officer for the purpose.

**(5) Scrutiny of Nomination papers:-**

- (i) The Returning Officer shall notify the date and time when nomination papers shall be scrutinised and objections heard. Candidates and or their agents duly authorized may be present. The decision of the Executive Committee in the matter shall be final.
- (ii) The Returning Officer shall cause the names with symbols of all the candidates standing for election to be sent to every candidate together with the notice notifying the date and time of scrutiny of the nomination papers and hearing of objection.

**(6) Effect of Nomination -** The names of the candidates declared duly nominated after disposal of objections with the symbol assigned to each shall be published by the Returning Officer at least, two weeks before the election.

**(7) Method of voting -** Each voter shall be entitled to one vote only and shall cast his vote in person. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

**(8) Time and hour of voting -** (i) The time and hour of voting shall be fixed by the Returning Officer. No voter shall be allowed to cast his vote after the closing time, provided that any voter present inside the enclosure of the Polling Station before the closing time shall be allowed to cast his vote even after the closing time. The Presiding Officer shall, at least half an hour before the closing time notify the said enclosure. The Presiding Officer shall issue slips bearing his signature, to all those voters or electors who have not casted their votes and who were present at the polling booth before the closing hour.

- (ii) If any question arises whether an elector or voter was present in the said enclosure before it was close shall be decided by the Presiding Officer and his decision shall be final.
- (iii) The Polling Officer shall, as soon as the elector enters the Polling Station ascertain his name and address and such other particulars as appear in the voters list, shall call out the number, name and description of the elector according to the entry in the list. He shall then take out a ballot paper stamped with the seal of the District Council on the back (*i.e.* on the side of it which does not contain the names and symbols of the candidates), first fold it vertically in the middle, unfold it again and hand it over to the elector with the instrument for marking the ballot paper.
- (iv) In deciding the right of a person to obtain a ballot paper under this Rule, the Presiding Officer may interpret an entry in the list of electors so as to overlook clerical or printing errors, provided he is satisfied that such person is identified as the elector to whom such entry relates.

- (v) The voter on receiving the ballot paper and marking instrument shall go inside the polling compartment and record his vote by stamping one mark only on or against the symbol of the candidate for whom he wishes to vote and then fold it in the same manner as it was indicated by the polling officer at the time of issue and come out of the polling compartment with the folded ballot paper and insert it (the ballot paper) into the ballot box. If the folded ballot paper is too long and inconvenient to insert in the ballot box he may fold it a second time horizontally before inserting it in the box.
- (9) **Deposit on objections** - Any candidate or duly authorised agent acting on behalf of the candidates shall deposit a sum of 10 for every voter he wants to object to. This money shall be forfeited to the District Council if the objection failed. The Presiding Officer shall not take cognizance of objections unless the objection fee was first deposited.
- (10) **Counting of votes** - (i) The Presiding Officer shall count the votes at the close of the poll in the presence of the candidates, and or their agents. Each candidate shall be entitled to have not more than two agents at the time of counting. The box shall be opened after the Presiding Officer and the candidates and or their agents have satisfied themselves that the box or boxes are in order and in good condition.
- (ii) The Presiding Officer shall allow the candidates and or their agents who may be present reasonable opportunity to inspect all ballot papers which in the opinion of the Presiding Officer are liable to be rejected but shall not allow them to handle those or any other ballot papers. The Presiding Officer shall on every ballot paper which is rejected, endorse the word "rejected" recording briefly on such ballot paper the ground for its rejection.
- (iii) The valid ballot papers found in the box or boxes shall be counted and kept in separate envelopes writing the name of the candidate on each and sealed. The rejected ballot papers of each of the candidates shall also similarly be kept in separate named envelope and sealed.
- (11) **Ground for rejection of ballot papers** - A ballot paper shall be rejected if,
- (a) It does not contain the Seal of the District Council on its back.
- (b) It is a spurious ballot paper.
- (c) It has been so damaged or mutilated that its identity as a genuine ballot paper cannot be established.
- (d) No vote is recorded or if the votes are given in favour of more than one candidate or if the marks indicating the vote thereon is placed in such manner as to make it doubtful for which candidate the vote has been given or voted for.
- (12) **Statement of ballot papers found in the box or boxes** - A statement of ballot papers valid and rejected found in the box or boxes shall be prepared by the Presiding Officer and be countersigned by the candidate or agent against the total votes polled by him or his candidate.
- The Presiding Officer shall, after preparing the statement as mentioned above and in the presence of any of the candidates or their agents who may be present make up into separate packets the unused ballot papers, the tendered ballot papers, the returned ballot papers, the marked copy of the voters list, the tendered vote list, the list of challenged votes and any other paper directed by the Returning Officer to be kept in sealed packets, and shall seal each such packets with his own seal and the seals of such candidates or polling agents as may desire to affix their seals thereon.
- (13) **Prohibitions**- Canvassing either for or against any candidate is prohibited during election day and a day preceding the election day and no canvassing of any sort is allowed within the polling area



on the polling day either by words, loudspeakers, posters, signs and gestures, writing or inscriptions.

- (14) **Decision of Presiding Officer to be final** - The decision of the Presiding Officer in the polling station or booth to any objection shall be final.
- (15) **Impersonation and prosecution** - Any voter found to vote by impersonating any voter or being otherwise ineligible to vote in accordance with this Act, shall be prosecuted as per law established.
- (16) **Polling Agents in a Polling Booth** - The candidates' agents shall be confined to voters only. A candidate shall not be allowed to have more than one agent at a time inside a Polling Booth.
- (17) **Expenses to be borne by the Executive Committee** - All expenses connected with the election of the Lyngdoh shall be borne by the Executive Committee.

**5. Election for the appointment of the Lyngdoh:-**

- (1) When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Lyngdoh of Mawphlang, the Executive Dorbar shall call upon the Kur of Lyngdoh Mawphlang clan to nominate a nominee or candidate for the post or office of the Lyngdoh.
- (2) In case the Dorbar Kur Pyllun of the Lyngdoh Mawphlang clan has or had produced or recommended or nominated only one eligible candidate from the Lyngdoh Mawphlang's clan, there will be no election but the Dorbar Hima shall have to confirm and affirm the nomination as recommended by the Dorbar Kur of Lyngdoh Mawphlang Clan as per the prevailing customary practices and shall intimate to the Executive Committee for granting of Sanad or Appointment Order.
- (3) In the event, the Dorbar Kur of Lyngdoh Mawphlang clan has or had recommended or nominated more than one eligible candidate, the Executive Dorbar shall forward the names to the Returning Officer.
- (4) (a) For the purpose of Sub-Section 3 above, the Returning Officer shall call for the filing of Nomination Paper from nominated or recommended persons of the Lyngdoh Mawphlang's clan of Hima Mawphlang. The Returning Officer shall hold Election declare the result thereof and or do thing necessary for the purpose of the election. The Returning Officer may in case of doubt or uncertainty refer the matter to the Executive Committee who shall decide and direct the Returning Officer accordingly.
- (b) The Returning Officer shall cause the Electoral Roll to be prepared of all eligible voters and scrutiny of candidates and on receipt of the names of electors, shall by a public notification of not less than 30 (thirty) days, notify their names, call for claim and objection etc, if any, and shall approve the names of the electors. In case there is any objections regarding the names of the electors, the Returning Officer shall conduct a hearing of parties involved and shall finally dispose of the matter after affording an opportunity of being heard and shall approve the names of elector. The decision of the Returning Officer in approving the names of electors shall be final and binding.
- (c) The election of the Lyngdoh shall be determined by a simple majority of votes cast and the successful candidate shall be declared elected and his name shall be recommended for issuing of Appointment Order or Sanad.

**6. Appointment of the Lyngdoh:-** On the basis of the result referred to in Section 5 of this Act, the Executive Committee shall forthwith issue appointment order or Sanad under such terms and conditions

as the Executive Committee may provide and not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, and shall report the appointment of the elected Lyngdoh in the next Session of the District Council.

- 7. Dispute regarding the Election:-** If within thirty days of the declaration of the result by the Returning Officer, any dispute arises regarding any matter relating to or connected with the Election of the Lyngdoh, the party or parties concerned shall refer the dispute by a petition. Such petition shall be filed before the Secretary to the Executive Committee in duplicate accompanied by a fee as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee from time to time who shall then refer the matter to the Tribunal constituted by the Executive Committee for the purpose for disposal of the matter accordingly within six months from the date of receipt of the case records. Such reports and findings shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for its decision.

Provided, that the period of six months may be extended by the Executive Committee on receipt of a written application from the Tribunal for certain reasonable grounds.

**8. Qualification for the office of the Lyngdoh:-**

A Khasi male person shall qualify to be elected as a Lyngdoh if he;

- a) is a natural descendant of the Lyngdoh Mawphlang clan of Mawphlang Lyngdohship and of good moral character, both of whose parents are indigenous Khasi by birth,
- b) is a native and resident of Hima Mawphlang and is not less than 25 years of age;
- c) is not a member of any Hima,
- d) has obtained the prior recommendation from the Dorbar Kur Pyllun of the Lyngdoh Mawphlang clan,
- e) is able to read, write and speak the Khasi language,
- f) possesses adequate knowledge of the traditions, customary practices and administration prevailing in the Hima.

- 9. Terms of Office:-** (1) There shall be only one Lyngdoh to be elected from the whole of Mawphlang Lyngdohship and his term of office shall be for life from the date of his appointment provided that he may be removed from office or suspended by the Executive Committee if,-

- (i) he violates any of the terms and conditions of his appointment; or
- (ii) he violates any of the laws, regulations, rules and the resolution passed by the Council; or
- (iii) he refuses to carry out the orders and instruction issued by the Executive Committee; or
- (iv) he is found to be mentally unfit to carry out his functions; or
- (v) he is found incapable of carrying on the administration to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee due to ill health, old age or habitual drunkenness; or
- (vi) he violated any customary rights and practices prevailing in the Hima and duly recognized by the Executive Committee; or
- (vii) he has been convicted of an offences involving moral turpitude; or
- (viii) he is found to have oppressed the people of the Hima and they have just cause for dissatisfaction with his misrule; or
- (ix) he has lost the confidence of the majority of his electors or of the people of the Hima; or
- (x) he is an undischarged insolvent; or
- (xi) he is found to have been conducting himself in a manner derogatory to his office or prejudicial to the interest of the Hima or part thereof; or

(xii) has been conducting himself in a manner which may undermine the authority of the Executive Committee or the District Council; or

(xiii) he fails to convene the annual Dorbar Hima or Dorbar Pyllun.

Provided that any such case shall be placed before the Council in its next Session:

Provided further that the Lyngdoh shall not be removed from office or punished with suspension unless he is given an opportunity of being heard:

Provided further also that the requirement of the second proviso shall not apply;-

(i) in the case where the order of removal or punishment or suspension is awarded on account of his being convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude; or

(ii) in the case of order of suspension pending inquiry.

(2) In the event of suspension pending enquiry, the Executive Committee shall frame charges accordingly and appoint an Inquiry Officer to enquire into such charges framed.

(3) The Inquiry Officer on receipt of the Statement of Defence from the suspended Lyngdoh shall record statement of witnesses if any and call for records if deemed necessary before submitting his Findings or report. The process of enquiry shall be completed within three months. However, the Executive Committee may from time to time extend the period of three months at the request of the Inquiry Officer.

#### **10. Appointment of Acting Chief:-**

(1) If at any time the office of a Lyngdoh becomes vacant as a result of death, resignation, retirement due to old age, removal or suspension, the Executive Committee may by order in writing appoint the Myntri of Blah clan to act as an Acting Chief who shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Lyngdoh. An Acting Chief shall remain in Office until appointment, of a new Lyngdoh or until further order of the Executive, Committee whichever is earlier.

Provided that in case the post of Myntri Blah is vacant, the Executive Committee may appoint any person from amongst the Myntri or Bakhraw of Mawphlang Lyngdohship to act as an Acting Chief who shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Lyngdoh.

(2) Where there is a change of incumbent on account of sub-section (1) above, there shall be proper taking and handing over charge of the office properties duly recorded in writing between the predecessor and the successor incumbent in the presence of witness.

Provided that any deliberate or willful violation of Sub-Section (2) of this Section shall be treated to be an act of criminal breach of trust and the incumbent is liable to be prosecuted as per law established.

#### **11. Election and confirmation of Myntri:-** An adult person shall be eligible to be elected as a Myntri, if he has attained the age of 25 years, bears a good moral character and both of whose parents are Khasi by birth.

(1) Any vacancy in the post of Myntri, the respective clan concerned shall elect or nominate the Myntri under the prevailing custom and practices and the result shall be placed before the Executive Dorbar for confirmation. On confirmation by the Executive Dorbar the Lyngdoh shall issue Appointment Letter or Sanad to the person concerned under such terms and conditions as the Executive Dorbar may provide which shall be intimated to the Executive Committee immediately.

(2) The post of Myntri is normally elected for life; however, the Dorbar Hima may on the advice of the Executive Dorbar, remove from Office or suspend any Myntri if he is found:-

- (i) To have violated or purposely ignored to follow any laws, rules and regulations of the Hima and the resolutions or Orders passed by the Dorbar Hima and the District Council under the Provision of this Act.
- (ii) To be incapable to carry out his function due to ill health, old age or habitual drunkenness.
- (iii) To have been convicted of any offence by any Court of Law.
- (iv) To have lost the confidence of the majority of the members of the clan concerned.

Provided that if any dispute arises as to whether the Myntri has or has not lost the confidence of the majority of the members of the clan who are eligible to elect or nominate him as provided in clause (iv) of Sub-Section (2) of this Section, the Lyngdoh and his Dorbar may, if deem necessary, hold and conduct a referendum consisting of all the members of the clan concerned and shall take appropriate action on the basis of a simple majority of the result of such referendum.

**12. Election and confirmation of Rangbah Shnong:-** (1) Any vacancy in the post of Rangbah Shnong shall be reported to the Lyngdoh and his Executive Dorbar who shall summon a meeting of all the adults of that village on such date and time as may be fixed by the Executive Dorbar for the election of a new Rangbah Shnong, and such meeting shall be presided over by the Lyngdoh or by any person authorized by him. On basis of the result of such election, the Rangbah Shnong shall be appointed by the Lyngdoh under terms and conditions as the Executive Dorbar may provide which shall be intimated to the Executive Committee immediately.

(2) The Rangbah Shnong shall hold Office for three years and he may be removed from the Office or suspended by the Lyngdoh or Myntri or the Executive Dorbar if:

- (i) he refuses to carry out the orders and instructions issued by the Executive Dorbar; or
- (ii) he violated any of the provisions of this Act or Rules or and Regulation of the Executive Dorbar or Dorbar Hima; or
- (iii) he violates any of the laws, regulations, rules and resolution passed by the District Council; or
- (iv) he has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude; or
- (v) he is found incapable of carrying on his duties and functions due to ill health, old age or habitual drunkenness; or
- (vi) he is found to be mentally unfit to carry out his duties and functions; or
- (vii) he is found to have been conducting himself in a manner of derogatory to his Office; or
- (viii) he is found to have been conducting himself in a manner which may undermine the authority of the Hima and the Executive Committee of the District Council, or
- (ix) he has lost the confidence of the majority of the adult males or persons eligible to elect him.

(3) If however, any dispute arises as to whether the Rangbah Shnong has or has not lost the confidence of the majority of the electors or of the people of the concerned village as provided in clause (ix) of Sub-Section (2) of Section 12 above, the Lyngdoh and his Dorbar may, if deem necessary, hold and conduct a referendum consisting of all the recognized and approved electors of the village and shall take appropriate action on the basis of a simple majority of the result of such referendum.

**13. Appointment of Acting Rangbah Shnong:-** In the event a Rangbah Shnong of a village cannot be elected, the Executive Dorbar may appoint an Acting Rangbah Shnong to look after such village who shall function until a new Rangbah Shnong is elected.

**14. Qualifications of a Rangbah Shnong:-**

- (1) An adult male person shall qualify to be elected as Rangbah Shnong if;-
  - (i) he is a citizen of India and belongs to the Khasi community;
  - (ii) he is a native and resident of a particular village for which he desires to be elected as Rangbah Shnong Mawphlang Lyngdohship.
  - (iii) he is not less than 25 years of age.
  - (iv) he bears a good moral character who commands social respect in a village;
  - (v) both his parents are indigenous Khasi by birth;
  - (vi) he is not a member of another Elaka;
  - (vii) he is not a Myntri;
  - (viii) he is able to read and write the Khasi language; and
  - (ix) he has a good knowledge of the customary practices and traditions prevailing in the Lyngdohship.

Provided that in any village inhabited entirely by Non-Khasi Community, the Executive Dorbar may by order appoint, in consultation with such village a Village Administrator to look after such village, who shall be directly under the control and direction of the Executive Dorbar.

- (2) A Rangbah Shnong shall function as per customary practices and under the terms and conditions contained in the appointment order or Sanad and in Conformity with the Acts and Rules of the District Council.
- (3) The Lyngdoh and his Executive Dorbar shall have the powers to issue appointment Order or Sanad to the Rangbah Shnong of each village under its jurisdiction duly or unanimously elected by the Village Dorbar as a seal or stamp of approval for his functioning.
- (4) Only the adult shall be eligible to participate and to be elected as Rangbah Shnong in the Village Dorbar.
- (5) The Executive Dorbar shall have the power to conduct the election for the appointment of a Rangbah Shnong either by secret voting or raising of hands.
- (6) No Village Dorbar shall be convened secretly by some heads of households or by a group of individuals without permission from the Rangbah Shnong. Any person or group of individuals found to have done so shall have to pay a fine as fixed by the Executive Dorbar from time to time and such unauthorized Village Dorbar will be declared by the court or office as illegal and invalid.
- (7) Any person who functioned or acted illegally as a Rangbah Shnong without obtaining an appointment Order or Sanad from the office of the Lyngdoh and his Dorbar shall have to pay a fine as fixed by the Executive Dorbar from time to time.

**15. Powers and Functions of the Executive Dorbar.**

- (1) The Executive Dorbar shall have the power to lay down terms and conditions in the appointment order or Sanad as it deems fit.
- (2) The Executive Dorbar shall have the power to recognize and approve any form of human habitation or settlement as a village, subject to the fulfillment of the following criteria or requirements:-
  - (i) such human habitation or settlement should have more than 10 (ten) households;

- (ii) such human habitation or settlement should have a definite and contiguous geographical area or size;
- (iii) such human habitation or settlement should have the scope for demographic growth and expansion in the future.
- (3) All villages falling under the Lyngdohship shall as far as possible and practicable, be well planned having proper drainage system, toilet, urinals, footpath, village roads, playgrounds, etc.
- (4) The houses or buildings in each and every village under the Lyngdohship shall not be erected or built too close to avoid or minimize massive fire hazards, etc.
- (5) No land owner or land holder shall create obstruction in any manner or form on/to all the footpaths or roads existing within the Lyngdohship.
- (6) It shall be the duty of every village to maintain and clean all the footpaths twice a year.
- (7) It shall be the duty of every village or land owner or land holder to maintain the muroks and mawpuds of the Lyngdohship regularly.
- (8) If any of the murok or mawpud is found to have been destroyed or lying in a dilapidated condition, it shall be the duty of the local inhabitants to report the matter directly to the office of the Lyngdoh.
- (9) Any person found to have destroyed the murok or mawpud, shall be prosecuted as per law established.

**16. Formation of New Village, alteration of area and naming of village and locality (Dong).**

Any formation of a new village or bifurcation of a village shall be as per prevailing practices and in conformity with the Acts, Rules and Regulations of the District Council. Such new village shall have a name and definite boundary and duly approved by the Executive Committee. The Lyngdoh and his Dorbar may take into consideration the consent of the parent village if deem necessary.

**17. Administration of Land.**

Administration of land within the Lyngdohship shall be as per prevailing practices and in conformity with the Acts, Rules and Regulations of the District Council.

**18. Judicial Administration.**

The judicial power of the Lyngdoh shall be as prescribed in the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Autonomous District (Administration of Justice), Rules 1953, as amended.

**19. Revenue Administration.**

The Executive Dorbar shall assess and collect customary tolls, fees, u synniang u bynhei, musur in accordance with the customary practices and usages in vogue in the Lyngdohship since time immemorial.

**20. Developmental Administration.**

Subject to the availability of funds and budget provisions, the Executive Dorbar shall have the power to place or allot funds to the Village Dorbars, individuals, any association or any other implementing agencies to serve the following purposes;

- (i) For the construction or creation of assets and infrastructures like village roads, footpaths, footbridges, community halls, indoor stadiums, public latrines, wells, ponds, morgue, crematorium and cemetery, football playground, children parks etc. as the Executive Dorbar or Dorbar Hima shall decide from time to time.

- (ii) For the establishment, management, and rendering financial assistance to schools, colleges and public libraries.
- (iii) For the establishment, management and rendering financial assistance to old age houses, orphanages, centre for social & child welfare and other homes of destitute and underprivileged persons.
- (iv) For the provision and giving of awards and other incentives to the native students of the Lyngdohship.
- (v) For rendering better service to mankind and humanity.

**21. Budget Preparation.**

- (1) The Executive Dorbar shall formulate and prepare the budget of the Lyngdohship indicating therein the anticipated income and expenditure for a given financial year accruable from its Revenue Administration.
- (2) The financial year adopted by the State or Central Government shall always be the financial year of the Lyngdohship.
- (3) The Lyngdohship shall have the right to accept any form of regular funding either from the Executive Committee or the State Government or the Central Government or any other sources and incorporate the same in its budget.
- (4) The gross income of the Lyngdohship shall be expended as per directions of the District Council.
- (5) Having prepared the budget, *i.e.* the anticipated income and expenditure during a given financial year, the Executive Dorbar shall approve before implementing it in the next financial year.
- (6) The office of the Lyngdoh shall always maintain the Cash Book, Ledger, etc. indicating the actual income and expenditure of the Lyngdohship for each and every financial year.
- (7) Every actual income and expenditure shall be audited regularly and annually by the persons or officials of the Lyngdohship and if required, by the external auditors and the Audit Report shall be placed before the Executive, Dorbar for approval. In case of discrepancy, the same shall be referred and placed before the Dorbar Hima for redressed and conveying the final approval.
- (8) The Executive Dorbar shall have the powers to re-appropriate savings from any share above as and when the need arises and divert for expenditure under another share or shares.

**22. Official Language.**

- (1) The official language of the Lyngdohship in both the office and as well as in the court shall be the Khasi language.
- (2) However, this does not prevent the use of English language as an associated official language in both the office and as well as in the court of the Lyngdohship as and when need arises.

**23. Composition of the Dorbar Hima:-** The Dorbar Hima shall be the apex authority of the Hima where the Lyngdoh, the Myntri, the Bakhraw, the Rangbah Shnong and the adults of the Hima as may be summoned by the Executive Dorbar to be the member. The Lyngdoh shall be the Chairman and the one who convenes and presides such a Dorbar which is the policy decision of the Hima.

**24. Code of Conduct in the Dorbar Hima:-** (1) The office of the Lyngdoh shall always inform well in advance informing the date, time and venue of the Dorbar Hima and shall request or instruct them to attend the same. The venue for such Dorbar shall be at Lumryngkew Mawiong, Mawphlang Lyngdohship.

- (2) The Agenda for the Dorbar Hima shall be informed in advance or on the day of the Dorbar Hima, depending upon the advice of the Executive Dorbar.
- (3) Person who desires to include any agenda for discussion and deliberation in the Dorbar Hima shall have to inform the Executive Dorbar not less than two weeks in advance for its consideration.
- (4) The Dorbar Hima shall be presided over by the Lyngdoh and in his absence by the Myntri Blah and if both are absent by any member elected in the Dorbar.
- (5) The Lyngdoh or any person acting as such shall have the right to accept or reject or postpone any agenda on the day of Dorbar Hima.
- (6) 2/3rd of the total strength of the invitees present shall form the quorum.
- (7) No party system (Longliang) shall be allowed in the Dorbar Hima. All decisions shall be taken based on the consensus after deliberations and shall always regard it as the Dorbar Blei.
- (8) Person who takes part in the discussion, deliberation decision-making will have to do so by standing. While doing so he shall express his feelings etc. precisely and concisely without time consuming.
- (9) When the Lyngdoh or any person presiding the Dorbar Hima as a Chairman stands to address, interact and react to points or issues of deliberations, etc. all those present shall have to sit down.
- (10) If any person makes his discussion, deliberations and expressions, which are not in consonance with the agenda or subject, the Lyngdoh or any person presiding over the Dorbar Hima shall have the right to refrain him from doing so.
- (11) No intoxicated persons shall be allowed to sit and take part in the proceeding of the Dorbar Hima.
- (12) No smoking will be allowed during the Dorbar period.
- (13) When duly informed, those who do not attend or remain absent in the Dorbar Hima except on genuine grounds shall be deemed as "Bein Dorbar" which is an act of contempt of the sanctity of the Dorbar and shall have to pay a fine as fixed by the Executive Dorbar from time to time.
- (14) The Chairman shall have full discretionary powers to stop or drive out or send for arrest any person who pick-up quarrels or speak immorally or speak furiously inside the Dorbar Hima in the course of the deliberations and may go up to the extent of imposing a fine upon him as he deems fits.
- (15) The Chairman shall have full discretionary powers to decide the person who humbugs (phlanduman) during the Dorbar Hima.
- (16) The minutes of the proceedings of the Dorbar Hima shall be recorded in writing and shall be circulated to all concerned after obtaining the signature of the Lyngdoh and the Secretary respectively for follow-up action of the respective points either from the office or individual's side.
- (17) Issues discussed and decisions taken in the Dorbar Hima shall be final and binding.
- (18) Any decision or resolution shall be passed by majority of persons present in the Dorbar and shall do so as a stamp of approval either by:-
  - (a) standing or
  - (b) raising of hands.

## **25. Code of Conduct of the Officials.**

- (1) Every official shall at all time maintain absolute integrity and devotion to duty and shall do nothing which is unbecoming of an official.



- (2) Every official holding a supervisory part shall take all possible steps to ensure the integrity and devotion to duty by all staff for the time being under his supervision, control or authority.
- (3) No official shall, in the performance of his or her official duties or in the exercise of powers conferred in him, act or otherwise than in the best of his judgment except when he is acting under direction of his official superior and shall, when acting such direction, obtain the direction in writing and where it is not practicable to obtain the direction in writing shall obtain written confirmation of the direction as soon thereafter as possible.

**Explanation:** Nothing in Sub-Rule (3) above shall be construed as empowering an official to evade his responsibility by seeking instructions from, or the approval of, a superior officer or authority when such institution are not necessary under the scheme of distribution of powers and responsibilities.

- (4) The Executive Dorbar shall have the powers to suspend or remove official who is found to have violated any provision(s) of these rules. The period of suspension shall be determined by the Executive Dorbar or shall extend till the disposal of findings or enquiries.
- (5) Officials shall not convey or transmit any document or papers directly or indirectly to any person without the order of the Lyngdoh or Acting Lyngdoh. All documents of the Lyngdohship shall be treated as secret and confidential.

**26. Power to make Rules:-**

The Executive Dorbar or Lyngdoh and his Dorbar shall have the power to make rules for the day-to-day administration of the Lyngdohship including the administration of land as well as the revenue administration in accordance with the prevailing customary practices since time immemorial and under the provision of this Act. Such rules shall be framed and placed before the Dorbar Hima before submission to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall, with the prior approval of the Governor, notify the Rules in the Official Gazette.

**27. Demonstrations and Strikes:-** The Lyngdoh shall not participate in any demonstration or resort to any form of strike in connection with any matter pertaining to his condition of service.

**28. Criticism of the Executive Committee:-**

- (1) The Lyngdoh shall not in any manner make radio or television broadcast, or publishes any document, or makes any statement or public utterances, or any communication to the press:-
  - (i) which has the effect of an adverse criticism of the Central or State Government or the Executive Committee or
  - (ii) which is likely to embarrass the relations between the Central Government and the District Council or the Central Government and any State Government and the District Council.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (1) above, nothing in this section shall apply to any statements made or views expressed to the Executive Committee in confidence by the Lyngdoh, the Myntri, the Lyngdoh Raid, Rangbah Shnong or Sordar Shnong in their official capacity or in the due performance of their duties.

**29. Connection with Press, Radio, Television etc:-** The Lyngdoh shall not except in accordance with any general or special orders of the Executive Committee or in the performance in good faith of the duties assigned to them communicates directly any official documents or information to any other person or to the press to whom they are not authorized to communicate such documents or information.

**30. Protection of action taken in good faith:-** No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against any officer or person for executing any order made by the Executive Committee or in respect of

anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done by any authorized officer or person under this Act or the rules or orders made there-under.

- 31. Authorisation:-** The Executive Committee may, by order in writing, authorize two or more of its members to exercise on its behalf any power or powers conferred upon it by this Act and anything heard, any act done or order passed as such by such members of the Executive Committee shall be deemed to have been heard, done or passed by the Executive Committee.

**32. Review of Orders.**

- 1) The Executive Committee may, either on its own motion or on the application of any interested or aggrieved party, review or revise any order passed by it or any authority of the District Council acting under this Act and pass such order in reference thereto as it deem necessary.
- 2) No order affecting any question of right between or amongst party(s) shall be reviewed or revised without giving the party(s) likely to be affected an opportunity of being heard.
- 3) No order shall be reviewed at the instance of any party(s) except on the following grounds:-
  - (i) discovery of new and important matter of evidence; or
  - (ii) any mistake or error apparent on the face of the record; or
  - (iii) any other sufficient reason.

**33. Power to remove difficulty:-**

If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Executive Committee, as appears to it to be necessary for removing such difficulty, may by public notification make such provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, and the order of the Executive Committee in such case shall be final.

**34. Bar to Civil Suits:-**

No suits or legal proceedings shall lie before any Court of Law against any order or action taken or anything done in good faith under any provisions of this Act.

**35. Act not in derogation of any other law:-**

Save as otherwise provided in this Act and the provisions of the United Khasi Hills District (Appointment and Succession of Chiefs and Headmen) Act, 1959 as amended, the provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of the provisions of any other law for the time being in force.

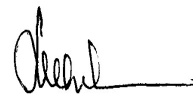
Provided that all pending cases pertaining to the nomination and election of the Lyngdoh, Myntri, Bakhraw and Rangbah Shnong of Mawphlang Lyngdohship shall be dealt with, disposed of under the provision of this Act.

**STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS**

It is considered expedient to safeguard and preserve the customary practices within Mawphlang Lyngdohship in matters relating to the administration, nomination, election, appointment and succession of the Lyngdoh, Myntri Bakhraw, and Rangbah Shnong.

Hence this Act.

Certified that the above Act was passed by the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council in Session on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2023.




**LAMPHRANG BLAH,**  
Chairman,  
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,  
Shillong.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

I assent this Act.

Dated Shillong,

The 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025.



**C. H. VIJAYASHANKAR,**  
GOVERNOR OF MEGHALAYA

**APPENDIX-I**  
[Section 4(3)(ii)]

VOTERS' LIST  
MAWPHLANG LYNGDOHSHIP

Name of the Village or Blocks \_\_\_\_\_

Sl. No.	Name of voter giving "U" or "Ka" before the name to indicate whether voter is a male or female	Father's or Mother's or Husband's name	Place or Residence	Age	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6

**APPENDIX-II**  
[Section 4(4)(i)]

FORM FOR SUBMISSION OF NAMES OF CANDIDATES

To,

The Returning Officer,  
Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council,  
Shillong.

Sir,

I,..... being an intending candidate for the post of Lyngdoh, Mawphlang  
Lyngdohship, do hereby submit my name together with a sum of \_\_\_\_\_

(Rupees \_\_\_\_\_) only (not refundable).

Name.....

Father's name.....

Place of residence.....

Signature of intending candidate.....

Date.....

**APPENDIX-III**

[Section 4(4)(ii)]

Nomination paper for the Election of a Lyngdoh of Mawphlang Lyngdohship.

Name of the candidate.....

His age.....

His mother's name.....

His village in the Lyngdohship.....

His present address.....

His number in the electoral roll .....

Name of his proposer and his number in the electoral roll and name of his village

.....

Signature of proposer.....

Name of his seconder and his number in the electoral roll.....

Signature of seconder.....

**DECLARATION BY THE CANDIDATE**

I hereby declare that I agree to this nomination.

Dated.....

Signature of the candidate.....

I hereby declare that I have appointed.....

To be my Election/ Polling Agent.

Dated.....

Signature of the candidate.....

I hereby declare that I have selected.....

as the symbol of my Election.

Dated.....

Signature of the candidate.....